GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6265
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2003
IRREGULARITIES IN VOTERS LISTS
DALPAT SINGH PARASTE

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Election Commission has ordered to take stern action against the officials on the issue of alleged irregularities in the State`s voters lists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that some controversy has been going on for taking action against the officers involved in such irregularities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D.SWAMI)

(a) : Yes, Sir.

(b): The Election Commission of India recommended to the Government of Madhya Pradesh suspension and initiation of disciplinary proceedings against the former Collectors-cum-District Election Officers (DEO) of Rewa, Shahdole and Khargone and Deputy DEOs of these districts with immediate effect for the alleged excessive errors found in the draft electoral rolls. The Commission also recommended initiation of disciplinary proceedings against the Collectors-cum-DEOs and Dy. DEOs of Damoh, Dhindori, Jabalpur, Katni and Narsingpur districts.

(c) & (d): The Collectors-cum-DEOs of Rewa, Shahdol and Khargone districts approached the Central Administrative Tribunal, Jabalpur and the Tribunal stayed further action on the recommendations of the Election Commission of India.The Election Commission of India challenged the Tribunal`s order in the Jabalpur Bench of the High Court of Madhya Pradesh and the High Court has in addition to issuing notices to respondents observed that the State Government might consider transferring the Collectors-cum-DEOs of Shahdol and Khargone districts during the pendency of the Writ Petition. While these three officers under reference have been transferred by the State Government, explanations and unconditional apologies tendered by the Collectors-cum-DEOs of Damoh, Dhindori, Jabalpur, Katni and Narsingpur districts have been accepted by the Election Commission.Disciplinary proceedings against officers other than the former Collectors-cum-DEOs of Rewa, Shahdol and Khargone have been dropped.